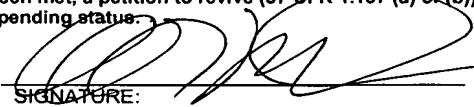


04-06 JC03 Rec'd PCT/PTO 04 APR 2005

PTO-1390 (Rev. 02-2005)  
Approved for use through 03/31/2007. OMB 0651-0021  
U. S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
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<b>TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A SUBMISSION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371</b>		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 02309/0202739-USO
		U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5) <b>10/530292</b>
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/JP2003/016557	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 24 December 2003	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 27 December 2002
TITLE OF INVENTION <b>ABSORBENT ARTICLE WITH COMPRESSED GROOVE AND FLEXIBLE PORTION</b>		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US <b>Tatsuya Tamura et al.</b>		
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>FIRST</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a <b>SECOND</b> or <b>SUBSEQUENT</b> submission of items concerning a submission under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371 (f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected (Article 31).</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2))</p> <p>    a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</p> <p>    b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau.</p> <p>    c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)).</p> <p>    a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto.</p> <p>    b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3))</p> <p>    a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).</p> <p>    b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau.</p> <p>    c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</p> <p>    d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).</p> <p><b>Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</b></p> <p>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</p> <p>12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A preliminary amendment.</p> <p>14. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.</p> <p>15. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.</p> <p>17. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821 - 1.825.</p> <p>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published International Application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>20. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: Affirmation of Priority and a copy of PCT/IB/304</p>		

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U.S. APPLICATION NO. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5)		INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER	
10/530292		PCT/JP2003/016557		02309/0202739-US0	
The following fees have been submitted				CALCULATIONS	PTO USE ONLY
21.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic national fee	\$300		\$ 300.00	
22.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examination fee				
If International preliminary examination report prepared by USPTO and all claims satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100					
All other situations \$200				\$ 200.00	
23.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Search fee				
Search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) has been paid on the international application to the USPTO as an International Searching Authority \$100					
International Search Report prepared and provided to the Office \$400					
All other situations \$500				\$ 500.00	
TOTAL OF 21, 22 and 23 =				\$ 1,000.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional fee for specification and drawings filed in paper over 100 sheets (excluding sequence listing or computer program listing filed in an electronic medium). The fee is \$250 for each additional 50 sheets of paper or fraction thereof.					
Total Sheets	Extra sheets	Number of each additional 50 or fraction thereof (round up to a whole number)	RATE		
52 - 100 =	/50 =		x \$250.00		
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)).				\$	
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE		
Total claims	6 - 20 =		x	\$ 0.00	
Independent claims	1 - 3 =		x	\$ 0.00	
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(s) (if applicable)				+	\$
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				\$ 1,000.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Fees above are reduced by 1/2.				\$	
SUBTOTAL =				\$ 1,000.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)).				+	\$
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				\$ 1,000.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21 (h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property				+	\$ 40.00
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				\$ 1,040.00	
				Amount to be refunded:	\$
				Amount to be charged:	\$
a.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ 1,040.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.				
b.	<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.				
c.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-0100. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.				
d.	<input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. <b>WARNING:</b> Information on this form may become public. <b>Credit card information should not be included on this form.</b> Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.				
NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137 (a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the International Application to pending status.					
SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:					
Peter C. Schechter DARBY & DARBY P.C. P.O. Box 5257 New York, New York 10150-5257 (212) 527-7723 CUSTOMER NUMBER: 07278					
SIGNATURE: 					
NAME: Chris T. Mizumoto					
REGISTRATION NUMBER: 42,899					

Application No. (if known):

Attorney Docket No.: 02309/0202739-US0

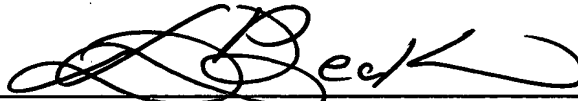
## Certificate of Express Mailing Under 37 CFR 1.10

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Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DP/EO/US) Concerning a Submission Under 35 USC 371 (1 page)  
Application Data Sheet (4 pages)  
Preliminary Amendment (5 pages)  
Declaration and Power of Attorney (4 pages)  
Assignment and Form PTO 1595 (3 pages)  
Affirmation of Priority and a copy of PCT/IB/304 (2 pages)  
Information Disclosure Statement; a copy of International Search Report;  
Form PTO SB/08; and four (4) documents  
Check No. 8177 in the amount of \$1,040.00